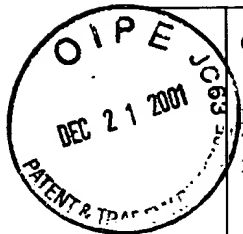


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KUMAR et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 09/867367 Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: 29 May 2001 Docket No.: 11378.14USC1
Title: A MICROBIAL COMPOSITION AND A PROCESS USEFUL FOR THE
NEUTRALIZATION OF ALKALINE WASTE-WATERS



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV037643737US

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:

Name: Kate Ryan

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a four-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed 21 June 2001, said period of response being extended from 21 August 2001 to 21 December 2001.

Our check in the amount of \$1440.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

12/31/2001 JADD01 00000077 09867367

02 FC:118

1440.00 OP

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612)332.5300

Dated: 21 December 2001

By:

John J. Gresens

Reg. No. 33,112

JJG/kjr